

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

Presentation by the Collaborative Center for Literacy Development on the Adolescent Literacy Coaching Project and an update on the Kentucky Adolescent Literacy Plan

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 158.645, 158.6451, 158.6453, 164.0207, 704 KAR 3:304, 704 KAR 3:305, NCLB Reading First

History/Background:

Existing Policy. Adolescent literacy is a Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) priority. In December, the KBE heard a presentation by the federally funded Striving Readers program. Currently, the state has one state-funded initiative related to adolescent literacy-the Adolescent Literacy Coaching Project (ALCP). Funded by the Teacher's Professional Growth Fund, the ALCP initiative is implemented through the Collaborative Center for Literacy Development (CCLD) in partnership with the state universities. The mission of the Adolescent Literacy Coaching Project is to develop a statewide network of literacy coaches to support teachers in grades 4-12 by enhancing content area literacy instruction and practice to promote student literacy proficiency.

Over the course of two years, the participating literacy coaches earn 12 hours of graduate credit from one of the state universities. Currently there are fourteen districts, thirty schools, and four universities participating in this initiative. Summer academies use the *Standards for Middle and High School Literacy Coaches*, an International Reading Association (2006) publication, as a framework and focus on the following core content:

- Literacy coaching and mentoring
- Strategic planning
- Effective literacy instruction
- Content area literacy strategies

The KBE will hear a presentation by participants in the ALCP project (Attachment A) that will help guide decisions about implementing adolescent literacy initiatives on a statewide scale.

In addition, CCLD is a key partner in Kentucky's literacy initiatives, including work on the NASBE adolescent literacy planning. In the original timeline from NASBE, the Kentucky Adolescent Literacy grant expired at the end of May, necessitating approval at the April KBE meeting. NASBE recently extended the grant through December 2008. Rather than bring the plan to the KBE for approval at the April meeting, as had been

planned, the Kentucky Department of Education is continuing to work on the plan to address the feedback received from the KBE at the February meeting and from the January Kentucky Adolescent Literacy Task Force meeting. Additionally, grant partners will be involved in a conference call with NASBE to discuss grant plans. The KDE will bring the plan back to the KBE in June for approval.

This staff note serves as an update for the KBE on the ongoing work on the plan. The KDE is working internally and with key partners to identify the objectives, rationale, outcomes, timeline and person(s)/partners responsible for each recommendation identified by the task force.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

Through implementation of a statewide adolescent literacy plan, including the work of partners such as the Collaborative Center for Literacy Development, the impact on teacher preparation and professional growth support students from early childhood through high school graduation. They have a strong impact on enabling students to reach proficiency in literacy.

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